

REMARKS

There are now pending in this application claims 1-15, of which claims 1, 6 and 11 are independent. Claim 16 has been cancelled without prejudice or waiver of its subject matter.

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the above application are respectfully sought.

Initially, claims 11-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 on grounds that the claimed invention was allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. As the Examiner will appreciate, each of claims 11-15 has been amended to recite a machine readable storage medium on which is stored an information processing program. As such, Applicant submits the rejection as been addressed and should now be withdrawn.

The invention as now set forth in independent claim 1 is directed to an information processing apparatus serving as a host computer for processing a printing request from an application and generating print data which can be printed by a printer using a printer driver. The apparatus comprises display control means for controlling a display unit to display an output setting view screen in which a value of an output setting item is set, the output setting view screen being a user interface of the printer driver, determination means for determining whether a paper size which is supported as the input paper size of the printer driver is supported as the output paper size of the printer and paper size setting means for setting an input paper size of a document inputted from the application and an output paper size of print data printed by the printer via the output setting view screen displayed by the display control means. The invention also includes generating means for generating the print data on the basis of the input paper size

and the output paper size set by the paper size setting means and is characterized in that when it is determined that the paper size of the input paper size is supported as the output paper size of the printer, the display control means controls the display unit to display a paper name of the paper size in an input paper size list of the output setting view screen and when it is determined by the determination means that the paper size of the input paper size is not supported as the output paper size of the printer, the display control means controls the display unit to display a paper name of the paper size with a mark indicating that a resizing process is performed in the input paper size list.

Independent claim 6 is directed to a method which incorporates the salient features of claim 1 and independent claim 11 is directed to a recording medium which contains a program which performs the method of claim 6.

Each of claims 1 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salgado et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,872,569). In view of the above amendments and the reasons which follow, the rejections are respectfully traversed.

Salgado et al. is directed to a system with a screen display, and an application server. In Salgado et al, the apparatus determines whether the attribute of a selected scanner corresponds to that of a selected printer using a database so as to show that a document read with the scanner may be printed with the printer. Thus, in Figure 12, the user selects scanner 1 and the paper size of 8 ½ x 11 as the stock size and selects the north printer where the paper size of 8 ½ x 11 is available, but the size of 11 x 17 is not available. Therefore, the unavailable selection is “grayed out” (see, col. 21, lines 47-65). Thus, Salgado et al. teaches to gray out information on any of the printer output sizes that are not the same as the input size.

The apparatus of Salgado et al. differs in several respects from the present invention. The present invention is directed to the handling of the input size and does not simply gray out information on any output sizes that are not identical to the input size. In addition, in the present invention, there is a control of an output setting view screen of a printer driver while Salgado et al. does not teach or suggest displaying of a user interface of the printer driver.

Applicant has recognized that in cases where the printer driver is used, generally both the input paper size and the output paper size are set through the output setting view screen of the printer driver. The input paper size is the size of one page of drawing information entered from the application and therefore it is highly desirable to provide the input paper size regardless of what paper size is supported in the printer. The output paper size is the size of one page of print data output to the printer by the printer driver and therefore it is necessary to display the output paper size as the paper size that is supported in the printer. In such apparatus, it is often the case that some of the input paper sizes supported by the printer driver are unavailable in the printer. If all input paper sizes (including those not available) are displayed as a list, an unavailable paper size may be selected by the user and this would lead to print errors. To solve this problem, Salgado et al. inhibits any paper sizes which are not available on the printer from being selected as the input paper size by graying out information on the paper sizes which are unavailable. This approach, however, may inhibit a certain paper size that is actually supported by the printer driver from being selected as the input paper size.

The present invention as now set forth in each of the independent claims of the above application addresses the above problem by an approach different from Salgado et al. In the present invention, if the paper size of the input paper size is supported as the output paper

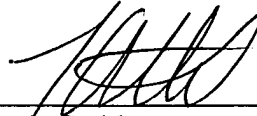
size of the printer, the display unit is controlled to display a paper name of the paper size in an input paper size list of the output setting view screen, and if not, the display unit is controlled to display a paper name of the paper size with a mark indicating that a resizing process is performed in the input paper size list. Such display control feature is not found in Salgado et al, nor the other art of record.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that each of independent claims 1, 6 and 11 is patentable over the applied art of record.

The remaining claims in the above application are dependent claims which depend either directly or indirectly from one of the above-discussed independent claims and are therefore patentable over the art of record for reasons noted above with respect to the independent claims. In addition, each recite features of the invention still further distinguishing it from the applied art. Favorable and independent consideration thereof is respectfully sought.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Stahl', written over a horizontal line.

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